

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAMA 02754 281228Z
ACTION CU-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 DOE-11 SOE-02 EB-08
/050 W

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R 280940Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA
TO USDOC WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 5562
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

UNCLAS MANAMA 2754

STATE FOR CU/NEA, USIA FOR INA, INS

ALSO PASS DOE

E.9. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP BBAK BA
SUBJECT: ARAB EXHIBITIONS BAHRAIN

1. LOCAL MANAGER OF ARABIAN EXHIBITIONS MANAGEMENT,
STEFAN KEMBALL, CALLED ON EMBASSY TO EXPRESS CONCERN
OVER INFORMATION HE HAD RECEIVED FROM HIS U.S. AGENT
VIA HIS LONDON OFFICE THAT DON RYAN OF USDOC HAD
IMPRESSION THAT ARAB EXHIBITIONS IN BAHRAIN WERE
NOT AS SUCCESSFUL AS HOPED AND THAT HILTON HOTELS
KNEW NOTHING ABOUT PLANNED EXHIBITIONS.

2. EMBOFF ASSURED KEMBALL THAT INFORMATION MUST
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HAVE BEEN GARBLED IN TRANSMISSION AS EMBASSY HAD
WORD THAT RYAN BELIEVED U.S. MIGHT WORK COMBINED
PARTICIPATION OF OUR TEHRAN SHOW WITH UPCOMING
SOLTECH 78 IN BAHRAIN, THAT USDOC WAS AWARE OF GOOD
REPUTATION OF BRITISH PARTNER IN ARABIAN
EXHIBITIONS AND THAT WE HAD BEEN REPORTING REGULARLY
AND NOT UNFAVORABLE ON HIS PLANS. KEMBALL FELT

ASSURED BUT REQUESTED THAT USDOC BE ADVISED OF RECENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOLTECH AND FOR PERMANENT EXHIBITION FACILITIES.

3. SOLTECH 78 IS NOW FIRMLY ESTABLISHED FOR 24-27 APRIL. THE SHOW WILL BE SPONSORED BY GOB MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRIES, YOUSUF SHIRAWI, WITH OFFICIAL SUPPORT FROM SAG AND GOKUWAIT. ALL EXHIBITION SPACE HAS BEEN TAKEN AND THE MANAGERS ARE NEGOTIATING WITH HILTON HOTELS TO UTILIZE ADJOINING CAR PARK AREA SHOULD ADDITIONAL EXHIBITORS APPLY. AMONG FIRM EXHIBITOR COMMITMENTS ARE: DOW CORNING, LENNOX INDUSTRIES, SOLAR POWER CORP (EXXON) SUN SYSTEMS INC., AND NORTHRUP, INC., ALL OF THE USA.

4. A TENTATIVE SPEAKERS SCHEDULE IS AVAILABLE WHICH HAS BEEN ARRANGED BY PROF. DAVID HALL OF LONDON UNIVERSITY. THE LIST INCLUDED TECHNICAL SPEAKERS PROVIDED BY MANY OF THE EXHIBITORS IN ADDITION TO; SIR GEORGE PORTER (ROYAL INSTITUTION), DR. MALIK (KUWAIT INST. FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH), DR. A. N. MORSE (CSIRO, AUSTRALIA), DR. F. DAWSON (BATTELLE, US) AND DR. L.O. HERWIG (DOE, US).

5. PLANS ARE PROCEEDING AS EXPECTED FOR PERMANENT EXHIBITION FACILITIES, ALTHOUGH ARABIAN EXHIBITIONS HAS UNCLASSIFIED

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HAD TO MOVE ITS SITE LOCATION. GOB COULD FORESEE POSSIBLE MORE VALUABLE DEVELOPMENTS FOR DOWNTOWN SITE NEXT TO HILTON HOTEL AND THEREFORE OFFERED ONLY ONE YEAR LEASE WITH NO CERTAIN RENEWAL OPTION. THE NEW SITE ON A TWO-YEAR LEASE IS ABOUT 1/2 MILE SOUTH OF HILTON IN OPEN NEWLY RECLAIMED AREA. ACCESS TO HILTON AND OTHER MAJOR HOTELS IS STILL EXCELLENT AND ARABIAN EXHIBITION MANAGEMENT PLAN TO OPERATE SHUTTLE BUS SYSTEM DURING SHOWS. SPRUNG INSTANT STRUCTURES OF CALGARY CANADA WILL CONSTRUCT A SERIES OF INTERCONNECTED ALUMINUM ARCH AND IMPERVIOUS SKIN BUILDINGS ON WHICH THE LOCAL FIRM IS COMMITTED TO 20 PERCENT DOWN PAYMENT IN MID-FEBRUARY AND CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION IN SEPTEMBER. BENEFITTING FROM ONE OF THE PROBLEMS IN A SIMILAR STRUCTURE IN DUBAI, THE LOCAL FIRM PLANS TO INSTALL LARGE INDUSTRIAL AIR SYSTEMS. FACILITIES COSTS ARE BUDGETTED AT ABOUT \$500,000.

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: BEXP, BBAK, BA
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